Daniel Acosta, Jr., Ph.D.

Dr. Acosta was raised in El Paso, Texas and educated initially as a pharmacist at The University of Texas at Austin. He served in the U.S. Army as a pharmacist and later obtained a Ph.D. in Pharmacology and Toxicology from the University of Kansas. He was a member of The University of Texas faculty for 22 years where he helped develop a nationally ranked program in toxicology. He also was responsible for encouraging minority students through several grants to consider careers in pharmacy and biomedical research.

As Dean of the College of Pharmacy (first appointed in 1996) at the University of Cincinnati, he has worked closely with the faculty, staff, and administration to implement an entry-level Pharm.D. program, which admitted its first class into the 4-year curriculum in the fall of 2000. During his tenure as Dean, he has provided direction and resources to enhance the research and scholarly activities of the faculty, such that annual external grant funding has increased from $350,000 to nearly $2,000,000.

Dr. Acosta's research program focused on the development of *in vitro* cellular models to explore and evaluate the mechanisms by which chemicals and drugs damage or injure specific cell types of various organs and tissues. His laboratory has developed primary culture systems of liver, heart, kidney, nerve, skin, and eye cells as experimental models to study the cellular and subcellular toxicity of selected xenobiotics. He has supervised the training of 29 M.S., Ph.D. and postdoctoral students, and more than 50 high school and undergraduate students have had a research experience in his laboratory. He has published more than 120 original papers in peer-reviewed journals, has authored 28 book chapters or reviews, and has edited 3 books. He is the editor of the third edition of *Cardiovascular Toxicology* (2001).

Dr. Acosta is active in numerous scientific and professional organizations, serves on several editorial boards of toxicology and *in vitro* journals, and has been appointed to a number of government and private committees. For example, he is the immediate past president of the Society of Toxicology, chairman of the FDA Scientific Advisory Board for the National Center for Toxicology Research, Chairman of the Texas A&M External Advisory Board of the NIEHS Center for Environmental and Rural Health, and a member of the Board of Scientific Advisors for the Office of Research and Development of the Environmental Protection Agency.